Declassification authority derived from FBI Automatic Declassification Guide, issued May 24, 2007

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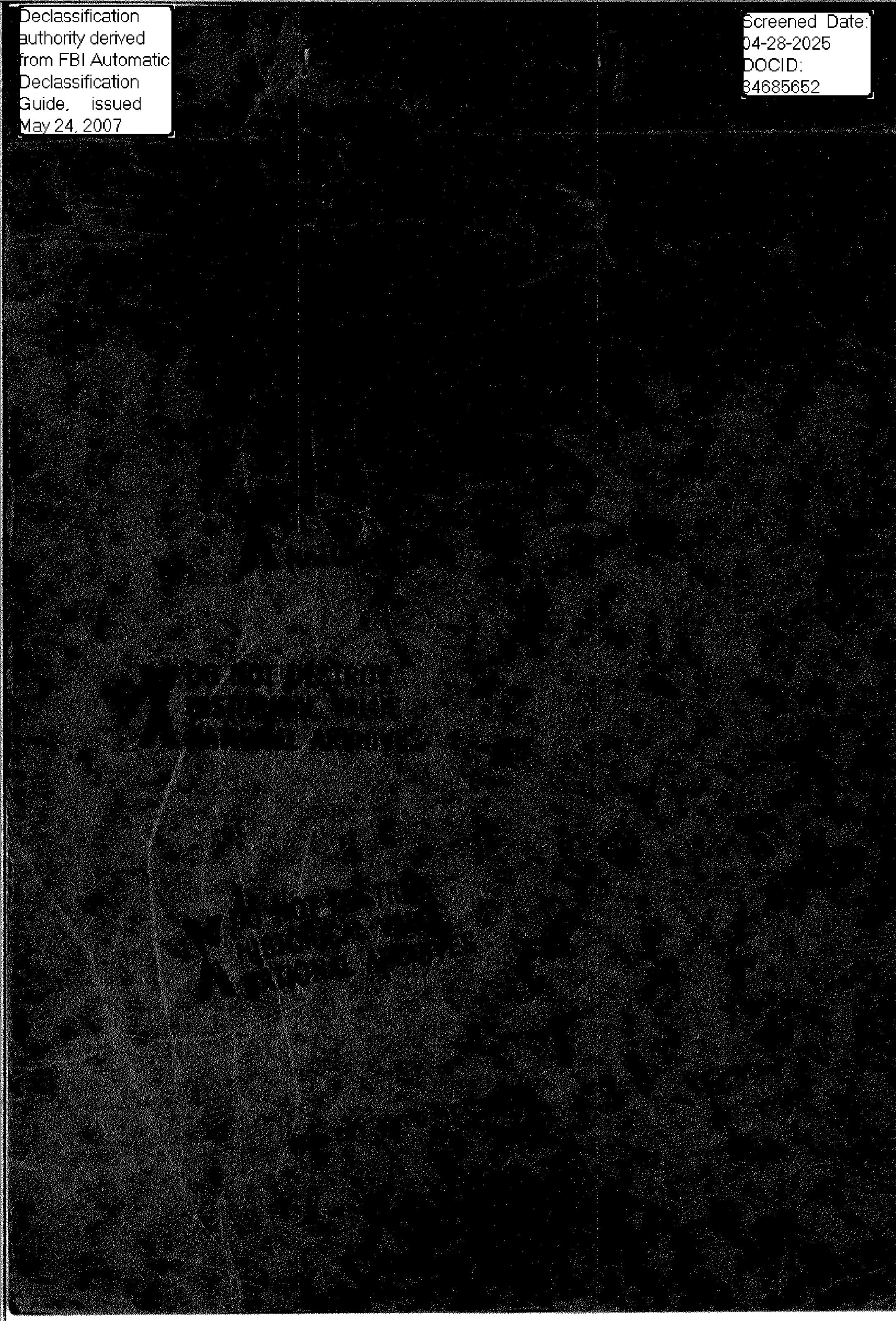

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND

DATE: 2/24/65

FROM SAC, TAMPA (157-24) (P)

SUBJECT: HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM

For info of Portland Office, subject, a former potential bombing suspect of this office, described as white male, born 3/21/15 at Springfield, Missouri, 5'10", 200 pounds, sandy thin hair, blue eyes, medium to fair complexion, stout build with large stomach, married (wife ETHEL FREDA CHILDSON, nee PACE), children - 5, a contractor by occupation, was formerly a close associate of BILL HENDRIX, leader of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (in Pinellas County, Florida), has been inactive in the KKK in Pinellas County for the past three or four years.

Information recently developed concerning CHILDSON, who was last known to be residing 7258 14th Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida (during early 1961) and to be self-employed as a contractor under the name "Triangle Construction Company", 333 43rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, was said in 12/64 to be in the building business at Salem, Oregon, no other particulars available.

Tampa is presently conducting investigation in an effort to develop more specific information concerning CHILDSON's current residence and employment, however, the Portland Division at Salem is requested to check appropriate sources, credit and police records, and pertinent racial informants for any information concerning subject's present location.

2 - Portland
2 - Tampa
GRM:lm
(4)

NW 157-268-1

SEARCHED ... INDEXED ... SERIALIZED ... FILED ...
MAR 1 1965
FBI - PORTLAND

3/13/65

SAC, TAMPA (157-24)

SAC, PORTLAND (157-268) (RUC)

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM

Reurlet, 2/24/65.

The following investigation was conducted by SA VERN F. DAVIS:

AT SALEM, OREGON

On 3/12/65, Mrs. SHARON PEARL, Credit Bureau, Salem, advised that the records of that office show a record of subject from August, 1963, last checking October, 1964. He lived at 3220 State Street, Salem, as of June, 1964, and his present address is 1135 Highland Avenue, N.E. He has assumed business name as Childson Pest Control Company, same address as residence. His employment listed as of November, 1964, was last above address. He was shown as 43 years of age in June, 1964, wife ETHEL CHILDSON. He has two suits against him one by John Mathias Company for $70.00 and the other by the Salem Credit Bureau for $215.38, both at Salem, Oregon, and neither suit shown as settled or paid.

On 3/12/65, Mrs. MARY GREGORY, Driver's License Division, State of Oregon, advised from her records that HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, 1135 Highland Avenue, N.E, Salem, Oregon, was issued Oregon Driver's License No. 322523 on 3/17/64, showing description as born 3/15/21, in Missouri, 5'8½", 220 pounds, blue eyes, brown hair, occupation general contractor.

On 3/12/65, Miss PATRICIA MYERS, Record Office, Salem Police Department stated that her records show nothing for ETHEL CHILDSON but show one traffic citation for subject #209264, on 6/15/64, illegal turn, bail $10.00 paid, address 1135 Highland Avenue, N.E., Salem, Oregon.

On 3/12/65, Deputy FRED BAKER, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Salem, found no record in his files for subject or subject's wife.

2-Tampa
1-Portland

VFD:jlm
(3)

Searched
Serialized
Indexed
Filed

RUC

157-268-

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 3

DIRECTOR, FBI 4-7-65

SAC, TAMPA (157-24) (P)

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM (KLAN)

Re Miami letter to Bureau dated 10-27-58, captioned "Bombings and Attempted Bombings, RM," which listed subject as a potential suspect in bombing matters because of his association with BILL HENDRIX, head of KKKK, and because of statements allegedly made by him in which he indicated he was involved in the bombings in Jacksonville, Fla., on 4-28-58 (Jewish Center and James Weldon Johnson High School and the bombing of the Hattie E. Cotton School, Nashville, Tenn., on 9-10-57), Miami letter to Bureau, 4-8-60, Tampa letter to Portland, 2-4-65, and Portland letter to Tampa, 3-16-65.

CHILDSON was interviewed after the above-described bombings and investigation failed to indicate that he was so involved.

On 2-4-60, CHILDSON stated he had given up all Klan activity and did not plan to engage in such activities in the future.

By referenced letter dated 4-8-60, subject was deleted as a potential suspect of bombing cases, subject to becoming reinstated should it later be determined that he has again involved himself with Klan matters.

On 12-4-64, a source advised that CHILDSON is presently in the building business in Salem, Oregon. The Tampa file on CHILDSON was reopened on 1-4-65, in order that his whereabouts might be verified and pertinent information furnished to the Portland Division.

On 3-13-65, the Portland Division advised that CHILDSON resided at 1135 Highland Ave., N.E., Salem, Oregon, as of 11/64, and was doing business as Childson Pest Control Company.

157-2643

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APR 12 1965
FBI — PORTLAND

4 - Bureau
1 - Portland (157-268) (Info.)
2 - Tampa
WEG:sv
(7)

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 4

Inasmuch as subject is no longer located in the Tampa Division, the Bureau is requested to change the Office of Origin in this matter to the Portland Division.

LEADS:

TAMPA DIVISION

AT TAMPA, FLORIDA

Will transmit pertinent information from CHILDSON's file to Portland Division upon approval of the Bureau to change OO.

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 5

DIRECTOR, FBI 4-7-65

SAC, TAMPA (157-24) (P)

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM (KLAN)

Re Miami letter to Bureau dated 10-27-58, captioned "Bombings and Attempted Bombings, RM," which listed subject as a potential suspect in bombing matters because of his association with BILL HENDRIX, head of KKKK, and because of statements allegedly made by him in which he indicated he was involved in the bombings in Jacksonville, Fla., on 4-28-58 (Jewish Center and James Weldon Johnson High School and the bombing of the Hattie R. Cotton School, Nashville, Tenn., on 9-10-57), Miami letter to Bureau, 4-8-60, Tampa letter to Portland, 2-4-65, and Portland letter to Tampa, 3-16-65.

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FBI—PORTLAND

4 - Bureau
1 - Portland (157-268) (Info.)
2 - Tampa
WKG:av
(7)

APPROVED 4/2/65

INFO

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 6

Inasmuch as subject is no longer located in the Tampa Division, the Bureau is requested to change the Office of Origin in this matter to the Portland Division.

LEADS:

TAMPA DIVISION

AT TAMPA, FLORIDA

Will transmit pertinent information from CHILDSON's file to Portland Division upon approval of the Bureau to change OO.

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 7

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 3-9-65) **(Copies to Offices Checked)**

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany	☐ Houston	☐ New York City	☐ Tampa
☐ Albuquerque	☐ Indianapolis	☐ Norfolk	☐ Washington Field
☐ Anchorage	☐ Jackson	☐ Oklahoma City	☐ Quantico
☐ Atlanta	☐ Jacksonville	☐ Omaha	
☐ Baltimore	☐ Kansas City	☐ Philadelphia	**TO LEGAT:**
☐ Birmingham	☐ Knoxville	☐ Phoenix	☐ Bern
☐ Boston	☐ Las Vegas	☐ Pittsburgh	☐ Bonn
☐ Buffalo	☐ Little Rock	☒ Portland	☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Butte	☐ Los Angeles	☐ Richmond	☐ London
☐ Charlotte	☐ Louisville	☐ St. Louis	☐ Manila
☐ Chicago	☐ Memphis	☐ Salt Lake City	☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Cincinnati	☐ Miami	☐ San Antonio	☐ Ottawa
☐ Cleveland	☐ Milwaukee	☐ San Diego	☐ Paris
☐ Dallas	☐ Minneapolis	☐ San Francisco	☐ Rome
☐ Denver	☐ Mobile	☐ San Juan	☐ Rio de Janeiro
☐ Detroit	☐ Newark	☐ Savannah	☐ Tokyo
☐ El Paso	☐ New Haven	☐ Seattle	
☐ Honolulu	☐ New Orleans	☐ Springfield	

Date 4/21/65

RE:

TAMPA LETTER DATED 4/7/65 AND CAPTIONED HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON. RACIAL MATTERS. (KLAN)

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____.

Remarks:

157-268-5

SEARCHED ... INDEXED ...
SERIALIZED ...
APR 22 1965
FBI — PORTLAND

Enc. 1
Bufile 157- 6-64
Urfile 157-268

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-58)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office	Office of Origin	Date	Investigative Period
MIAMI	JACKSONVILLE	1/14/59	10/13/58-1/11/59

TITLE OF CASE

BOMBING OF THE JEWISH CENTER SYNAGOGUE AND JAMES WELDON JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL, BOTH JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, APRIL 28, 1958

Report made by: JAMES E. WALLACE

Typed By: mbs

CHARACTER OF CASE

INFORMATION CONCERNING

Synopsis:

REFERENCES: Bureau letter to Miami, 12/18/58.
Miami letter to Bureau, 1/2/59.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURES: Enclosed for the Bureau are (1) six copies of informant evaluation memorandum.

LEADS

JACKSONVILLE:

AT JACKSONVILLE, FLA.:

Will play the recording of the voice of HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON to the person or persons who were telephonically contacted on April 28, 1958, regarding instant bombings.

Approved	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below

Copies made:

6 - Bureau (100-135-63) (Encls.6) (RM)
1 - Atlanta (100-5755) (Encl. 1) (Info) (RM)
3 - Jacksonville (Encls. 3) (105-64) (RM)
3 - Miami (44-895)
(1 - 44-948) (NH-0)

157-868-6

SERIALIZED ... INDEXED ... FILED ...
MAY 3 1965
FBI

Property of FBI - This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING O

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 9

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

MM 44-895

ATLANTA: (INFORMATION)

One copy of this report is furnished to the Atlanta Office for information because it contains information concerning KENNETH CHESTER GRIFFIN, suspect in instant case and the bombing in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 12, 1958. GRIFFIN is a resident of the State of Georgia.

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY	LOCATION OF ORIGINAL INFORMATION
MM T-1 is	
MM T-2 is	

Careful considaration has been given to each source concealed and T-symbols are utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

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DocId:34685652 Page 10

FD-204 (Rev. 6-29-50)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA JAMES E. WALLACE Office: MIAMI
Date: JAN 14 1959

File Number: MIAMI (44-895) BUREAU (100-135-63)

Title: BOMBING OF JEWISH CENTER SYNAGOGUE AND JAMES WELDON JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL, BOTH JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, APRIL 28, 1958

Character: INFORMATION CONCERNING

Synopsis:

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, St. Petersburg, Fla., and FRANK GASTON, Tampa, Fla., advised that they possess no information concerning instant bombing or any recent bombings which appear to stem from racial prejudices.

- RUC -

DETAILS: AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

On September 6 and 9, 1958, MM T-1 reported that on August 31, 1958, in Louisville, Kentucky, H. H. CHILDERS (HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON) made the statement that he and (FNU) ROGERS and (FNU) GRIFFITH or GRIFFIN (KENNETH CHESTER GRIFFIN) of Atlanta, had done the bombings in Jacksonville, Florida, and that after it was done, they called a Rabbi and said they were the Confederate Underground and were going to do some more bombing.

On May 27, 1958, G. D. FRAZIER, 1835 Mississippi Avenue, Northeast, advised he saw HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON at about 3:00 P.M. on March 15, 1958, and arranged for CHILDSON to commence repairs on FRAZIER's residence on March 17, 1958, which CHILDSON did. FRAZIER said he saw CHILDSON in St. Petersburg in the A.M. and P.M. of March 17, 1958.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of any kind. It is the property of the FBI, and is a loan to your agency; it and/or its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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On April 26, 1958, CHILDSON negotiated a check given to him by FRAZIER at Publix Market No. 27, 9th Street, North, St. Petersburg.

On June 3, 1958, MM T-2 advised that he has had little contact with CHILDSON during the past few months. He said that conversation concerning the bombings at Jacksonville and Miami, Florida, with members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan brought no mention of his name as a possible participant. Informant mentioned CHILDSON's name to others active in pro-segregation activity but it failed to elicit any connection between CHILDSON and these incidents.

On October 17, 1958, MM T-2 advised that CHILDSON, to his knowledge, had never made any specific statement indicating that he had participated in the bombings at Miami, Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, and in Tennessee.

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, 333 43rd Avenue, North, was interviewed on October 13, 1958. CHILDSON advised that he knows nothing concerning the bombings at Jacksonville and Miami. He stated he knows nothing concerning the bombing in Clinton, Tennessee.

On October 16, 1958, CHILDSON was interviewed. He denied having any personal knowledge of any bombings possibly involving racial prejudice and denied that he had participated in any bombings.

On October 17, 1958, CHILDSON was interviewed. He said he has never been in Jacksonville, Florida. He again denied participation in and of having anymore than public knowledge concerning the recent bombings.

On October 17, 1958, CHILDSON displayed receipts from Sun City Plumbing, St. Petersburg, and Florida Tile Company, Tampa, both dated April 30, 1958, which he said indicated he had lined up the construction jobs prior to

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April 30, 1958. He possessed no data that would definitely place him in St. Petersburg on April 28, 1958, but said he was not in Jacksonville on that date and was in St. Petersburg, to the best of his recollection.

On December 1, 1958, CHILDSON was interviewed. He said he was not, and is not involved in any bombings. He said he only has public knowledge of the bombings. He said he does not know who did the bombings and does not know anyone who knows the identity of the bombers. He voluntarily allowed his voice to be recorded.

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON is a member of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, aka, which organization has for its head WILLIAM "BILL" HENDRIX.

CHILDSON admitted on October 16 and 17, 1958, that he attempted to form the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, aka, subsequent to October, 1957. He considers this organization defunct at this time.

CHILDSON admitted on December 1, 1958, that he attempted to form the Confederate Underground during the Summer of 1958. He stated that his Confederate Underground is not the Confederate Underground mentioned in connection with the recent bombings. He has said that he is not planning on trying to keep his Confederate Underground alive because of the apathy attended it at its inception and that he considers it "dead" at this time.

AT TAMPA, FLORIDA

The following investigation was conducted by SA HOWARD K. RUTHERFORD, JR.:

FRANK GASTON, Patrolman, Tampa Police Department, who resides at 2809 Central Avenue, Tampa, advised he has no information whatever concerning the bombings in Jacksonville

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in April, 1958, or concerning any of the recent bombings which appear to stem from racial prejudices. He said he has not heard anything to indicate who may be responsible for these bombings and he has no idea who is to blame. Specifically, he has no knowledge that WILLIAM J. GRIFFIN of Tampa is connected with the Jacksonville bombings, he said, and he has never even heard anyone state they thought GRIFFIN was responsible to the best of his recollection. GASTON stated he knows GRIFFIN and personally dislikes him but he could not say he has any reason to associate him with the Jacksonville bombings.

He went on to state that he became associated with GRIFFIN upon his return to Tampa from military service after World War II. GASTON said at that time GRIFFIN was organizing a group under the name Conscientious American Citizens Club which had as its announced purpose the promotion of worthwhile civic movements and the election to public office of honest and reputable citizens. He said this club obtained a charter in the Circuit Court of Hillsborough County and his, GASTON's, name appears on the charter as one of the founders. GASTON said he, being just back from military service, knew little about GRIFFIN at the time and was impressed with the aims of the Club. After a time, however, he became disgusted because it appeared to him GRIFFIN was just making money off the club, so he quit. He said since then he has had nothing to do with GRIFFIN except to speak to him when they meet on the street, and he said GRIFFIN has not concealed the fact he dislikes GASTON.

Concerning an associate of GRIFFIN named ROPER, GASTON said he knows nothing first hand. He said about four years ago one KLEIN, whose first name he does not know, but who was associated with a Ku Klux Klan organization in Atlanta, came to Tampa and spoke at a public rally on Florida Avenue near the intersection of Hamilton Street. GASTON said he went out to the rally but left after a few minutes as he thought "there was something 'fishy' about a Jew speaking for the Ku Klux Klan." He said at that time somebody

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told him, and he claims he does not remember who it was, that KLEIN and (FNU) ROPER, also of Atlanta, and WILLIAM J. GRIFFIN were friends and they were all going to get into trouble. He said to his best recollection that is the only time he ever heard GRIFFIN's name associated with those of ROPER or KLEIN. He said he does not know the identity of the ROPER referred to but assumes is the same one whose picture appeared on the cover of "Life" magazine about two years ago in connection with an article about the Klan.

Asked if BILL HENDRIX might have been the person who told him GRIFFIN was associated with KLEIN and ROPER, GASTON stated he is certain it was not HENDRIX. He added that he has known HENDRIX since they were both employed by the Government in the Fire Department at Comp Gordon Johnson, Carribell, Florida, in 1941. He said HENDRIX has always been a gentleman and a 100 per cent American, in GASTON's opinion, and he considers him a good friend.

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11/7/58

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, KNOXVILLE (62-7)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (62-1432)

RE: UNSUB; Bombing of Clinton High School, Clinton, Tennessee, 10/5/58
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Miami airtel to Atlanta dated 11/3/58.

Re: HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, aka.
Robert Lewis Alexander,
FBI #1589173 - Suspect

By letter dated 11/21/57 Springfield forwarded information concerning above-named suspect to Knoville, their file "Ku Klux Klan of the Confederacy; IS-I," CO Knoxville, as follows:

"On 10/7/57, Miss BERNICE MC INTYRE, Clerk, Peoria Police Department, Peoria, Illinois, was contacted by SA JOSEPH BETZ, and Miss MC INTYRE advised she could locate no record of ROBERT LEWIS ALEXANDER or HARLEY H. CHILDSON in her files.

"RAY SANDIFER, Recorder, Illinois State Prison, Pontiac Branch, Pontiac, Illinois, was contacted on 11/4/57. SANDIFER produced records of ROBERT LEWIS ALEXANDER, Illinois State Prison Number 12374, FBI #1589173, and the file revealed that ALEXANDER's true name was HARLEY H. CHILDSON, who was received at the Illinois

2 - Knoxville
2 - Atlanta
(4) - Miami
2 - Springfiel
JTS/ea
(10)

157-268-7

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FBI

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"State Prison, Menard, Illinois, as ROBERT LEWIS ALEXANDER on 5/16/39 at the age of 18 years, on a charge of assault with intent to rob from Clinton County, Illinois. ALEXANDER was to serve a sentence of from one to fourteen years. CHILDSON attempted a holdup of a grocery store in Centralia, Illinois.

"The records reflect that CHILDSON was an immature individual who knows nothing of real parentage, raised in foster homes, parents unknown. At the age of 14 years, in 1934, CHILDSON was committed to an Industrial Home in Springfield, Missouri, as a dependency case. He ran away after two weeks, lived with an unidentified person on a farm near Springfield, Missouri, for two years.

"The records reveal the attempted holdup of a grocery store in Centralia, Illinois, was committed by CHILDSON while 'hoboing' through the country and he was in need of food.

"Records further revealed that CHILDSON was born May 15, 1921, at Springfield, Missouri, as an illegitimate child and committed to a St. Louis, Missouri, orphanage, not identified. CHILDSON was taken from this orphanage at the age of one year by foster parents, whose name was ALEXANDER, not further identified.

"CHILDSON served one month in 1938 in the C. C. Camp, from which he ran away.

"The record reveals that CHILDSON was paroled from the Illinois State Prison at Pontiac, Illinois, on May 25, 1942, to SAMUEL HELLER, 1010 S. Washington Street, Peoria, Illinois. CHILDSON was to work for HELLER as a laborer. CHILDSON left Peoria, Illinois, and went to San Francisco, California, where he enlisted in the U. S. Navy, using his correct name of HARLEY E. CHILDSON.

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"Records reveal that a parole violator's warrant was issued for CHILDSON on 7/6/43 and forwarded to the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois, on May 3, 1945. At this time, CHILDSON was being held in disciplinary barracks at Great Lakes, Illinois, where he was serving a 24 months sentence for unauthorized absence. CHILDSON was discharged from the U. S. Navy on 6/18/45 and taken into custody by parole agents from the State of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois, on 6/18/45. The parole agent, not identified, discovered that CHILDSON had married ETHEL PACE of Covington, Kentucky, while in the U. S. Navy. Parole agent allowed CHILDSON to proceed to Covington, Kentucky, on 10/1/45 and was officially transferred to the supervision of the State of Kentucky.

"On 6/18/45 service of the parole violator's warrant was withheld for a period of 3 months and completely withdrawn on 10/15/45.

"CHILDSON was employed at an unknown steel mill in Covington, Kentucky, from 10/45 until he obtained work at an unknown coal mine at Coalgood, Kentucky, March, 1946. Sometime in March, 1946, he obtained employment at the Mary Helen Coal Mine at Coalgood, Kentucky, and worked at this coal mine until January, 1947; however, this coal mine apparently was idle a good share of the time due to strikes, and he held numerous odd jobs in and around Covington, Kentucky.

"In September, 1947, CHILDSON began working for himself as a small painting contractor and drove a Yellow Cab in Covington, Kentucky, until April, 1948. CHILDSON resided at 33 West 4th Street at Covington, Kentucky, with his wife and three children until he was discharged from parole upon recommendation of the parole authorities in the State of Kentucky on 6/18/48.

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SI 62-1432

Knoxville please forward copy of photographs of suspect in your possession to Miami and Atlanta. Reason this is necessary is that all Agents in the Springfield Office in the area where we could obtain a photograph are tied up on a special and no photograph is available in the Springfield file itself.

CARBONS

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 19

Miami, Florida
March 30, 1959

MEMO, SAC:

Re: HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, aka
BOMBING CASES - POTENTIAL SUSPECT

CHILDSON is considered a potential suspect in any bombing because of his alleged attitude towards integration. He is opposed to integration, is anti-Jew and reportedly has stated he participated in the bombing in Jacksonville, Florida.

CHILDSON is the admitted head of the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, aka Confederate Underground.

CHILDSON is married and has five children. He reportedly mistreats and browbeats his children. He has been described as being mentally unbalanced. He is a business contractor and operates out of his residence. He has worked in mines and claims to be proficient with dynamite. He was reared an orphan. He was undesirably discharged from the U. S. Navy in 1945.

CHILDSON is described as follows:

Name	HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON aka Robert Lewis Alexander
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	March 21, 1915
Place of birth	Springfield, Missouri
Height	5' 10"
Weight	200 lbs.
Hair	Sandy; thin
Eyes	Blue

157-268-81

2 - 157-9
1 - 157-10 (BCF)
JEW:mjs
(3)

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MAY 3 1965

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FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

Complexion	Medium to fair
Build	Stout - large stomach
Comment	CHILDSON owns a rifle and has in the past reportedly carried a .45 cal. automatic on the seat of his truck.
Occupation	Contractor
FBI #	1589173
Photo	Available - Taken 1958

CHILDSON resides 1136 Oak Street, Northeast, St. Petersburg, Florida.

He is self-employed as a contractor, operating from his residence. He has no set hours of employment, usually working during daylight hours.

CHILDSON drives a 1959 Chevrolet pick-up truck, orange and white in color, bearing 1959 Florida license 4GK 3845, ID #3B59A102292.

CHILDSON's fingerprints have been included in the Single Fingerprint Explosives File.

At this time [redacted] is acting as neighborhood source. Another source will be developed.

JAMES E. WALLACE
Special Agent

NW 89004
DocId:34685652 Page 21

10/31/58

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-70219)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (105-1544)

CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND
IS - X

ReBuairtel to Atlanta 10/24/58.

The source of the material reported herein was secured from a review of Miami files, investigation, and interviews with HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON.

Bureau authority is requested to interview HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON and to initiate a mail cover at CHILDSON's residence. The mail cover, if authorized, will be placed with Inspector C. R. LYNCH, Post Office Department, Tampa, Florida, who covers St. Petersburg, Fla.

As the Bureau will note, after a review of this communication, CHILDSON has been interviewed five times by Agents of the FBI. He professed cooperation each time, but has never really furnished any information not already known by the Bureau. He steadfastly, so far, refuses to divulge the names of Klansmen known to him. He believes strongly that he cannot violate his Klan oath in this regard. From personal contact with CHILDSON, and a review of the data available concerning him, the conclusion has been reached that he is an unmitigated liar, prone to exaggerate, is an opportunist,

3 - Bureau (AIRM)
1 - Atlanta (105-843)(Info.) (RM)
4 - Miami
(1 - 105-1189 CKKKK)
(1 - 100-11349 KKKK)

JEM:bma
(8)

157-268-9

SERIALIZED
MAY 3 1965
FBI

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a failure at everything he has attempted in Klan organizations, and personally, insofar as is known.

Normally it could not be expected that another interview with CHILDSON would be more productive than those conducted in the past. However, it is believed that when CHILDSON is confronted with the fact that the Bureau is aware that he claims to be "General GUC", has indiscriminately broadcast this fact, has communicated with various individuals claiming to be the head of the Confederate Underground and requesting that the Confederate Underground be started by these persons in their locale, he will furnish information in his possession concerning the Confederate Underground, however meager it may be. Also, the interview will serve to neutralize CHILDSON's Klan activities and prevent any acts of violence he may be contemplating.

The interview will also enable Miami to secure a recording of CHILDSON's voice, an up to date photograph and specimens of his handwriting and typewriter.

BIRTH DATA

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, born March 21, 1915, Springfield, Missouri. Identity of parents unknown. Reared by CHARLIE and BONNIE ALEXANDER, 808 Commercial Street, Springfield, Missouri, who may have adopted him.

CHILDHOOD

CHILDSON placed in Juvenile Industrial Home, Springfield, Missouri, date unknown, when ALEXANDER family no longer desired him, date unknown. He was then

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placed by juvenile authorities on a farm owned by person named SNAPP. Farm located near Springfield. Remained there about two years. At about age 15 (1930) CHILDSON proceeded to Las Lunas, New Mexico, where remained for seven or eight months. Returned to West Plains, Missouri, in 1937 or 1938.

EDUCATION

CHILDSON has an 8th grade education.

MARITAL STATUS

CHILDSON married ETHEL FREDA CHILDSON, nee PACE, on June 19, 1944, and at that time resided at 410 Garred St., Harlan, Kentucky.

RESIDENCE

CHILDSON resides at 333 43rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida, with his wife, ETHEL, and five children. The house is rented. The telephone number at the residence is 5-7710, and is listed under Triangle Construction Co., his business.

FORMER RESIDENCES

1915 - 1930	Springfield, Missouri
1930	Las Lunas, New Mexico; Yucca, Arizona
1937 or 1938	West Plains, Missouri
1939 - 1942	Illinois State Prison, Pontiac, Ill.
1942	California, Arizona, Nevada

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1944	General Delivery, Bledsoe, Ky. 410 Garred Street, Harlan, Ky.
1945	315 E. Third St., Covington, Ky.
1946	Coalgood, Ky.
1947	Covington, Ky.
1950	Cincinnati, Ohio
1952	315 Western Avenue, Covington, Ky.
1952 - 8/57	St. Petersburg, Fla.
9/57 - 10/57	2513 Croyden Drive, Knoxville, Tenn.
10/57 - present	St. Petersburg, Fla.

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

CHILDSON presently self employed as a contractor under name of Triangle Construction Co., 333 43rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla. He is principally engaged in home repair type of construction and house leveling.

PAST EMPLOYMENTS

1930 (approximately)	Beer joint and farm, Las Lunas, New Mexico
1930s	Borania or Boreianna Mining Co., Yucca, Arizona.
1942	Boriana Mines, Yucca, Arizona, as a crammer. Mine employee, Tin Plate, Nevada. Boriana Mines, Yucca, Arizona, as stinger and driller. Mine employee, Cocoa Reef, California, shot powder. W. A. Bechtel Co., Marin Shipbuilding Division, Sausalito, California, Chipper Helper.

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1946	Mary Helen Mine, Coalgood, Kentucky, relief powderman
1947	Woods Mine, Everetts (Evarts), Ky., powder crew. Cloverderby Mining Co., Cloverderby (Clover Bottom?), Kentucky, power crew. Cloversplint Mine, Cloversplint, Ky., shot powder.
1952	Hal's Blueprint Service, St. Petersburg, Fla.

CREDIT RECORD

Records of Credit Bureau of St. Petersburg, Fla., reveal that CHILDSON is definitely unsatisfactory for credit. There are two judgments of record outstanding. Items in the collection department total in excess of $300.00. He still owes bills incurred in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Covington, Kentucky, that have been uncollectible to date. CHILDSON has had automotive equipment repossessed.

BANK RECORDS

A review of the records of the banks in St. Petersburg, Florida, failed to reveal that CHILDSON has an account or safe deposit box.

TELEPHONE RECORDS

The records of the General Telephone Company, St. Petersburg, fail to reveal that during the period May 5, 1958, to October 10, 1958, CHILDSON made any interstate long distance telephone calls from his number 5-7710.

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CHILDSON owes the telephone company $112.48. He has agreed to pay off this balance at the rate of $25.00 per month in addition to his regular bill, but is always in arrears at least thirty days.

ARREST RECORD

CHILDSON has FBI #1589173. He was arrested by the Police Department, Centralia, Illinois, on 3/31/39, and charged with attempt to rob. CHILDSON was armed with .38 caliber revolver during robbery attempt. Sentenced to 1 - 14 years, and confined at Illinois State Penitentiary, Pontiac, Illinois. Paroled in 1942. In 1938, he was arrested by Police Department, Needles, California, and charged with theft. Disposition unknown, but probably turned over to Sheriff's Office, San Bernardino, under charge of P.T., disposition, "Certified of Juvenile 8/24/38 (Calif Youth Authority)". Arrested by Police Department, Fort Worth, Texas, 9/11/38, for investigation, and released same date. All arrests under name of ROBERT ALEXANDER and ROBERT LEWIS ALEXANDER.

SERVICE RECORD - U. S. NAVY

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON enlisted in the U. S. Navy on 12/3/42. He served in the Naval Reserve, inactive status, from 12/3/42, to 1/5/43. He entered on active duty on 1/6/43, at San Francisco, California. Undesirably discharged on 6/18/45, as Apprentice Seaman, Great Lakes, Ill., by reason of "Fraudulent enlistment." Undesirable discharge became effective after CHILDSON admitted he was a parole violator from State of Illinois, and that he had failed to admit this at time of enlistment in Navy.

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MM 105-1544

INTERVIEWS WITH HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON

On 10/5/56, CHILDSON voluntarily appeared at the St. Petersburg, Fla. Resident Agency, and was interviewed by SA E. WILSON PURDY (Since retired).

CHILDSON stated he is the head of the organization that was responsible for the leaflet that was printed in the "St. Petersburg Times", 7/30/56. The leaflet requested persons interested in the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan to write Box 708, Pinellas Park, Fla. The leaflet also stated, "Join the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan".

CHILDSON stated Box 708 is in his name. He said he is a "member of the organization and believes in it". He said he is trying to organize this Klan, which is now in a very small state, and "just fighting to get enough together to organize".

He declined to furnish the name of his Klan, but did state it is not the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, though that was the name used in the leaflets printed in the "St. Petersburg Times".

He said his group was in no way associated with BILL HENDRIX (Head, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, aka.) and that HENDRIX is "washed up".

CHILDSON declined to furnish the names of any of his associates. He said he resigned from the "Edwards Klan" of Atlanta about five months ago.

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On 12/31/56, CHILDSON invited SAs E. WILSON PURDY (since retired) and JAMES E. WALLACE to contact him at his home. He was so contacted on 12/31/56, and advised that he had organized a Klan (Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Pinellas Park, Fla), the name of which he declined to divulge. He said his Klan is not a part of the Georgia Klan, Florida Klan or Edwards Klan. He would not advise what Klan group, if any, his Klan is associated with.

He said the purpose of his Klan is to fight Communism. He is the head of the Klan and Grand Dragon of the State of Florida. He declined to furnish the names of any of the members. The most members present at any meeting was eight. There are no dues paying members.

He said he is resigning as Grand Dragon of the State of Florida, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and as a member, 1/11/57, because the Klan is not the answer to the problems facing the South. He could not, or would not, state what, in his opinion, were the problems facing the South.

He said his Klan would either fold up or come out into the open. He thinks it will fold up because it has no leadership, no organization and few members.

On 10/13/58, CHILDSON was interviewed by SAs J. E. WALLACE and JAMES P. O'NEIL at his residence. He was cordial and tried to leave the impression he was glad to cooperate with the FBI.

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He was interviewed to ascertain his whereabouts on 10/12/58, the date of the bombing of the Jewish Temple in Atlanta, Ga. CHILDSON advised he was not in Atlanta on 10/12/58, and that he possesses no information concerning the bombing.

He denied knowledge of the existence of the Confederate Underground. He said that in his opinion no such organization exists. He said that the name Confederate Underground sounds good and is newsworthy. The fact that the name Confederate Underground was linked with one of the first bombings and as a result received such great publicity has caused the participants in the later bombings to also use the name, and thus guarantee their efforts great notoriety. He does not think any of the bombings are related, but are isolated instances. He said that a Floridian, for example, who wanted to bomb a school or a synagogue would not have to leave the State to do the job as there are schools and synagogues in Florida. To do so, in his opinion, would be foolish and could lead to his apprehension because he would in all probability have to take someone into his confidence at the site of the bombing.

CHILDSON said he did not approve of, or condone, the bombings, and said that the "Jews" themselves could be doing the bombings to collect insurance and bring sympathy to themselves.

On 10/16/58, CHILDSON was interviewed by SAs JAMES E. WALLACE and JAMES P. O'NEIL at his residence to determine if he was involved in, or aware of, the identity of the persons responsible for the bombing of the Hattie R. Cotton School bombing, Nashville, Tennessee, on 9/10/57.

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CHILDSON said he possesses no information concerning the bombing except what he learned from the press. He denied being implicated in the bombing and does not know who did the bombing. He said he was in Knoxville, Tennessee, or Bledsoe, Kentucky, on September 10, 1957, and was residing at the time at 2513 Croyden Drive, Knoxville, Tenn.

He said he saw some Klansmen while in Knoxville. He claimed to be a powderman prior to his entry into the U. S. Navy in 1943. Said had excellent proficiency as a powderman, and knew he was suspect in the bombings because of occupation as a powdermen and Ku Klux Klan membership.

CHILDSON said he tried to form the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, but never had over seven members. Said organization now defunct because of lack of interest and support. He again denied knowledge of the existence of the Confederate Underground. He denied knowledge of any bombings and participation in any bombings. He said he was opposed to bombings.

He said he had stated before, and would again state, he would not divulge the names of Klansmen known to him.

On 10/17/58, CHILDSON was interviewed by SAs JAMES E. WALLACE and JAMES P. O'NEIL at the Resident Agency, St. Petersburg, after he voluntarily appeared there.

CHILDSON again denied personal knowledge of the bombing of the Hattie R. Cotton School and implication therein. He denied putting on a demonstration concerning

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the use of dynamite. It is to be noted that on 9/29/57, CHILDSON reportedly demonstrated the use of dynamite to ROBERT BAIRD and others at BAIRD's home in LaFollette, Tenn. This occurred subsequent to the bombing of the Hattie R. Cotton School.

He said he met with a Klan group in Knoxville in September, 1957, but "broke up" this group because they were not doing anything, and did not know what they wanted to do. He declined to say with what Klan organization this Klan was affiliated before he "broke" it up. He did say the Klan had splintered off from another Klan that might have originally been Edwards Klan. He would not elaborate upon what authority he had to "break up" a Klan in Tennessee or elsewhere.

CHILDSON said that after he returned to St. Petersburg in October, 1957, he attempted to form the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (CKKK) and sent "honorary" membership cards in this Klan to some of the men he had met in Knoxville. He declined to furnish their names. He said only four members of the CKKKwere administered the oath, and that no meetings were held, no dues collected, no public speakings held and that the organization never really got started. He did give out 10 or 12 "honorary" membership cards in CKKKK. The aim of the CKKKK is to fight Communism, and the integration issue is secondary and only of importance because persons agitating for integration are Communists.

When asked what Klansmen discussed when they were together, CHILDSON stated they "harped" on things they did not like such as integration and front organizations being operated by the Communists. He said the average

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Klansman is "plain stupid" and ignorant, but they fear the Communists and are "anti-Jewish Communists". He said the "Jews" in Hollywood are Communists who have changed their names so the public will not know they are "Jews". He said he did not dislike all "Jews" just as he does not dislike all Negroes, but that you have to take each on an individual basis.

CHILDSON's brother-in-law, OTIS PACE, Bledsoe, Kentucky, spent two weeks with him and Mrs. CHILDSON at 2513 Croyden Drive, Knoxville, Tenn., after they moved into their residence on 9/4 or 5/57. Further, all the family spent the first three weekends in Bledsoe, Ky., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM PACE, head of Straight Creek, Mrs. CHILDSON's parents. This would put OTIS PACE in CHILDSON's residence on the day of Hattie R. Cotton School bombing.

CHILDSON revealed that he has never been actually employed as a powderman. He advised on 10/16/58, that he had been so employed, and had an excellent proficiency therein. He explained that he had acted as a powderman in relief and, of course, had "shot" powder, and plenty of it. Said he had acted as a "crammer", stinger operator (air hammer), and driller in mines in Arizona, California and Kentucky. He said he had no demolition experience while in the Navy. All in all he claimed to have worked about 18 months where dynamite being used and helped detonate dynamite. Claims last used dynamite at Clover Splint Mine in Kentucky.

AFFILIATION WITH KLAN ORGANIZATIONS

KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, aka. (Head, BILL HENDRIX)

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FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

CHILDSON is a member of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, aka. He is a close friend and confidant of BILL HENDRIX.

KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, PINELLAS PARK, FLORIDA

CHILDSON, by his own admission, formed a Klan group in St. Petersburg, Fla., prior to 7/56. He resigned from this Klan and as Grand Dragon of the State of Florida on 1/11/57. This Klan was formed to fight Communism.

CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, aka., Confederate Underground (CKKKK)

CHILDSON, by his own admission, attempted to form the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, subsequent to 10/57. The aim of this Klan group was to fight Communism. The integration issue is secondary and only of importance because persons agitating for integration are Communists. This Klan, according to CHILDSON, never had over seven members, four of which were given the Klan oath. He said he considers it defunct because of lack of interest and support.

[redacted] has advised that BILL HENDRIX has stated that CHILDSON has only a handful of young men 18 to 19 years of age in his Klan (CKKKK).

[redacted] reported that CHILDSON, on 9/10/58, said in presence of JOHN KASPER, that he formed the CKKKK because all the talk other Klan groups are doing does not mean a thing compared to action, and that his group is committed to action. He also stated that his Confederate

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Underground (CU) is even bigger than the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He said he is head of the Confederate Underground, and has organizations in thirty states.

[redacted] believes CHILDSON's statement re CU is gross exaggeration, and probably wishful thinking on CHILDSON's part, as HENDRIX has previously reported CHILDSON's organization is composed of a handful of young men.

CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND (Reported Heads, HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, JESSE B. STONER and ASA "ACE" CARTER)

[redacted] reported that on 8/31/58, [redacted] H. H. CHILDERS (CHILDSON)

[redacted]

CHILDSON made the statement that he was in the Confederate Underground, and that they call "Jews" on the telephone and scare them. He said that he and (FNU) ROGERS, and (FNU) GRIFFITH or GRIFFIN (KENNETH CHESTER GRIFFIN) of Atlanta, had done the bombings in Jacksonville, Florida, and that after it was done, they called a Rabbi and said they were the Confederate Underground and were going to do some more bombing.

CHILDSON said he is not doing any bombings or violence now, but said he and others are still making phone calls under the name of the Confederate Underground, to scare "Jews".

[redacted] received an envelope addressed to him, postmarked St. Petersburg, Fla., 9/10/58, that contained a sheet of paper, typewritten copy, setting out organizational set-up of the "UG". Just to the right of the "Headquarters CUU" at the bottom is the impression of a seal.

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[redacted] also received an envelope postmarked St. Petersburg, Fla., 9/18/58, bearing return address of 333 43rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla., that enclosed a letter on letterhead of "Confederate Underground, Headquarters Command", dated 9/14/58, signed "General CUC". Also enclosed was a copy of "Form 5554 Oath of CUG".

[redacted] received an envelope postmarked St. Petersburg, Fla., 9/19/58, with return address H. H. CHILDSON, 333 43rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla., that enclosed one typewritten copy headed "Confederate Underground", and one typewritten carbon copy of instructions beginning "5 Star Gen.-Gen on the cug".

A potential security informant of the Miami Division, [redacted] (Protect identity) received a letter from CHILDSON dated 9/12/58, that enclosed the "Oath of CUG", a document setting forth the chain of command of the Confederate Underground, which informed the informant, "You are a full Colonel".

The letter is on the stationery of the Confederate Underground and signed "Your's for Freedom, General CUC". The letter instructed that, "You will refur to me only as General - CUC - This is my code name pronounced; Cuck."

[redacted] (protect), former panel source of the Indianapolis Office, furnished the following material which was sent to WILSON S. PARKS by CHILDSON on 9/19/58. [redacted] said PARKS gave this material to him.

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Letter to PARKS from CHILDSON requesting PARKS to build a Klan membership.

Enclosure to letter showing ranks of members of Confederate Underground [redacted] advised that this is probably what this enclosure signifies). It is to be noted that the enclosure is substantially the same as the organizational setup of the "UG" that was received by [redacted] and PSI [redacted] and signed the same way, namely, "Headquarters CUG".

Also enclosed with the letter was a Klan application of the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and an honorary membership card of the CKKKK showing WILSON S. PARKS, Klavern 57, State of Indiana, on face of card.

A review of the above material clearly reveals that the first time CHILDSON is known to have mentioned the Confederate Underground was in conversation with [redacted] on 8/31/58, when [redacted] was present. Insofar as is known to Miami, this is the first time CHILDSON ever mentioned the Confederate Underground or indicated any knowledge of or affiliation with it.

Investigation by Miami has not revealed that CHILDSON is connected in any way with ASA "ACE" CARTER or JESSE B. STONER, whom informants have identified as being head of the Confederate Underground.

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Miami is of the opinion that CHILDSON has seized upon the name Confederate Underground, realizing its newsworthy potential as a result of the publicity received by the organization in the recent bombings. It is known that he attempted to form a Klan group, the Confederate Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, which, according to him, was a failure, and it follows that to bolster his position he could have seized upon the name Confederate Underground in an attempt to capitalize upon the publicity that organization has received.

The Bureau's attention is also directed to the fact that investigation by Atlanta, office of origin, in the case entitled, "CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND, aka., Confederate Union, Confederate Center of Information, IS - X", has revealed that the Confederate Underground is reportedly a small organization composed of six or eight members whose aim is to curb the integration movement by violence against Jews and Negroes. It would appear that the members would consider the organization to be highly secret in view of its announced aim.

It just does not appear logical or feasible that CHILDSON, if he were actually in the Confederate Underground, would incriminate himself and possibly expose the organization by sending out literature indiscriminately, purportedly from the Confederate Underground, as he did to the three individuals mentioned above. Note that insofar as is known to Miami, the only contact [redacted] ever had with CHILDSON was a brief one on 8/31/58, in Louisville, Ky. [redacted] has had limited contact with CHILDSON. CHILDSON met WILSON S. PARKS at the National Convention of the National States Rights Party, Louisville, Ky., in 8/58.

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It is interesting to note that KENNETH CHESTER GRIFFIN, a subject in the bombing of the Jewish Temple at Atlanta, Ga., on 10/12/58, was present at the National Convention of the NSRP, and insofar as is known to Miami, GRIFFIN made no mention of the Confederate Underground.

CHILDSON is a known liar, prone to exaggerate, and has been characterized by his close friend and confidant, BILL HENDRIX, as "having no sense".

IMPLICATION IN BOMBINGS

Investigation has failed to reveal that CHILDSON is implicated in any bombings.

CHILDSON has stated that he has nothing but public knowledge concerning the bombings, and is not implicated in the bombings.

CHILDSON's fingerprints were compared with the fingerprints recovered in the attempted bombing of Temple Beth-El, Birmingham, Ala., and the conclusion reached that his fingerprints are not identical with the fingerprints recovered.

NEIGHBORHOOD SOURCE

[redacted] has been developed as a neighborhood source.

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[redacted] observed CHILDSON daily and records his activities.

[redacted] observed CHILDSON's eldest son under CHILDSON's supervision, burn material taken from what appeared to be envelopes on 10/18/58, in the CHILDSON back yard.

The neighbor to the east of CHILDSON is deaf. The neighbor to the west of CHILDSON has been noted by [redacted] to have engaged in conversation with CHILDSON, and the extent of their relationship is unknown.

CHILDSON's neighborhood for the most part is made up of elderly, retired and semi-retired people who, for the most part, keep to themselves.

MISCELLANEOUS

While in CHILDSON's residence on 10/13/58, Agents observed that the house was sparsely furnished, and what furniture was observed therein was in a shabby, dilapidated and unrepaired condition. The floor was dirty, as were the windows and front door.

CHILDSON indicated that he had received very little work since he returned to Florida, and was having a hard time feeding his family. He said he would not work for anyone else, even though he could probably secure a job, because he knew he would not get fair wages. He would rather "wait for something to show up" than get a steady job. His truck is in need of repair, and he has no money to have it repaired. He is in arrears in his rent. He does not have enough money to secure his

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contractor's license. BILL HENDRIX has assisted him in his financial crisis. He sold all, or most of, his tools when in Tennessee in September, 1957, and has been unable to make enough money to buy ones needed to do his work. If things don't pick up, he may leave Florida. He blames the lack of work for "natives" on new contractors that have recently begun to operate in St. Petersburg w o are "Jews".

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-24)

DATE: 3/11/64

FROM : EARLINE CHARLES
CLERK

SUBJECT: HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON

SUMMARY

157-112-7 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 12/17/56
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, Pinellas Park, Fla.
IS-X

On 10/5/56, HARLEY H. CHILDSON, 3234 - 36th Ave., North, St. Petersburg, Fla., former Exaulted Cyclops of the now defunct Shunshine Klavern #1 of the Association of Georgia Klans, voluntarily appeared at the St. Pete RA in connection with another matter. He thereafter began a discussion with SA E. WILSON PURDY. CHILDSON admitted he was head of subj. organization in St. Pete at that time, stating it was a small organization and that BILL HENDRIX, former Grand Dragon, Southern Knights of the KKK, was not connected with his organization. CHILDSON stated his organization was not affiliated with any other Klan. Purpose of organization, according to CHILDSON, was to fight Communist.

157-112-20 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 1/24/57
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, Pinellas Park, Fla.; IS-X

HARLEY H. CHILDSON was contacted at his residence, at his request, on 12/31/56 by SAS E. WILSON PURDY and JAMES E. WALLACE. CHILDSON furnished copy of letter dated 12/31/56, to Imperial Council, Knights of KKK, confirming his resignation from the KKKK as a member and as Grand Dragon (GD) of Fla., effective 1/11/57. CHILDSON stated subject organization has no dues paying members and will fold up or come out in the open. He said this organization has no leadership, no organization and few members.

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(1)

157-268-10

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED
SERIALIZED ..... FILED
MAY 8 1965
FBI — PORTLAND

W. DAVIS

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CHILDSON said he was going to discontinue paying rent on P. O. Box 708, Pinellas Park, Fla., which box he had rented under alias of HANS CHILSEN. This report carries a description of subject however not being set forth as serial 18 of 157-24 carries a more complete description.

A search on the name HANS CHILSEN reflects no additional references.

157-112-21 - Miami report of SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 4/10/57
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, Pinellas Park, Fla.; IS-X

On 1/29/57, [redacted] (PROTECT) a reliable informant, advised that BILL HENDRIX, National Representative in Charge of Programs and Publicity, Knights of the KKK, stated on 1/17/57, that HARLEY H. CHILDSON had resigned from the Klan in favor of HENDRIX and that HENDRIX was getting the membership list of CHILDSON's group.

On 2/25/57, [redacted] advised that HILDSON was joining the Southern Knights of the KKK.

157-112-24 - Memo SA E. WILSON PURDY to SAC Miami dated 5/29/57
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, Pinellas Klavern, H. H. CHILDSON, Exalted Cyclops.

On 5/23/57, H. H. CHILDSON appeared at the St. Pete RA where he was interviewed by SAS JAMES E. WALLACE & PURDY, at his request. He advised he was filing suit against the City of St. Pete and City Manager ROSS WINDOM and wanted to know if it was legal for him to circulate a petition to get WINDOM out of office. Further said he desired to organize a boys club and wanted the FBI to help him teach them fingerprinting. Stated he still believed in the principles of the KKK but was in no way active in the organization. He would not furnish info to the FBI about persons in the Klan. ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ Serial 23 is a clipping from the St. Pete Independent 5/20/57 re suit against the City filed by CHILDSON.

157-112-64 - Memo SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN to SAC Miami dated 10/21/58
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 10/13/58, PSI [redacted] made available to SA WISEMAN and DOUGLASS E. WENDEL, documents he had received from HAL CHILDSON. Photos were made of the documents and this serial contains the info.

157-112-67 p.3 - Director airtel to Atlanta dated 10/24/58
RE: CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND; IS-X

Bureau instructs MM to initiate investigation re HARLEY HANSON [redacted] view of allegations received he was head of subj. organization.

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157-112-81 - Miami airtel to Director dated 10/31/58
RE: CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND; IS-X

This is a 20 page airtel to the Director setting out complete background and info re interviews of CHILDSON. Bureau authority requested to interview CHILDSON and to initiate a mail cover at his residence. Inasmuch as this serial pertains only to CHILDSON it is being transferred to that file.

157-112-91 - Memo from SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 11/6/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 10/31/58, [redacted] (PROTECT) advised SAS O. R. KENNEDY & JAMES E. WALLACE that he attended a meeting of the KKK on 10/30/58. HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON among those attending. CHILDSON said he wanted DEWEY M. TAFT, who is a printer, to print him some red paper that he could shape in the form of a stick of dynamite. He said he would stuff this paper with sand and put a fuse in it and leave it on the steps of the Jewish Synagogue in downtown St. Petersburg.

CHILDSON, in discussing bombings that had happened around that time, stated that they were scheduled for around Christmas, 1958.

157-112-98 - Miami airtel to Director dated 12/5/58
RE: CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND, aka; IS-X; RM

On 12/1/58, HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON was interviewed at St. Petersburg RA by SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL and JAMES E. WALLACE. CHILDSON advised that in the summer of 1958, prior to his attendance at the convention of the National States Rights Party, Louisville, Ky. (9/30-31/58), he personally conceived the idea, without assistance from any other person, of forming a secret organization to be known as the Confederate Underground. His plan was to build his Klan organization, the Confederate Knights of the KKK, into a strong group, and thereafter recruit members of this group into the Confederate Underground.

CHILDSON stated he offered from 10 to 15 commissions in the Confederate Underground. There was to be no dues and no initiation fees. Anybody accepting a commission had authority to recruit members. He said that insofar as he knew the persons he commissioned had not recruited anyone. He admitted his code name was General GUC. He said GUC are the initials of Confederate Underground in reverse. He said he was not involved in any bombings and had no knowledge of them. He further stated that his Confederate Underground was not identical with the Confederate Underground that was then linked with the bombings.

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CHILDSON voluntarily gave gandwriting specimens, a voice recording and allowed himself to be photographed.

157-112-99 - Memo SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN to SAC Miami dated 12/9/58
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK; AKA; RM

On 12/2/58, [redacted] (PROTECT) furnished to SA WISEMAN, (1) letter from HAL CHILDSON, dated 11/21/58; (2) throwaway sheet captioned "Draft HAL CHILDSON FOR GOVERNOR", originals of both filed in 1A section of [redacted] This serial also sets out the info contained in above mentioned documents.

157-112-103 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 1/7/59 RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

In addition to info already set out in this memo or contained in subject's main file, this report contains info from [redacted] (PROTECT) that H. H. CHILDERS (CHILDSON) among those attending the National Convention of the National States Rights Party in Louisville, Ky on 8/50/58.

[redacted] (PROTECT) advised that on 9/6/58, the Knights of the White Camellia of the National Christian Church, held a public speaking at Lake City, Fla., and CHILDSON acted as Master of Ceremonies. The speakers spoke from the bed of a pick-up truck owned by CHILDSON. CHILDSON stated he carried a .45 in his truck at all times.

[redacted] advised that on 9/10/58, CHILDSON stated he was a demolition expert and that his Navy record would so reflect. Source ~~REMEE~~ stated that CHILDSON gave all kinds of ways to kill people or bomb buildings. CHILDSON advised source he hated the Jews. This serial sets out the various ways CHILDSON had of killing people and can be located on pages 37 thru 39.

157-112-108 - Atlanta airtel to Director dated 12/22/58 RE: WALLACE HUGH ALLEN, ET AL; INFO CONC.

This serial merely states that the HAL referred to by PETER LAURENTIUS XAVIER was undoubtedly HARLEY CHILDSON, St. Pete.

157-112-135 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 2/13/59
RE: CONFEDERATE UNDERGROUND.

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This report does not contain any additional info re CHILDSON not previously set forth.

157-112-176 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 4/27/59
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

Report indicates that HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, Supreme Commander, Confederate Underground, continued to recruit for Confederate Underground. PETER LAURENTIUS XAVIER, Dayton, Ohio, claimed to be "second in command" in "CHILDSON's outfit." A source in contact with CHILDSON in January and March, 1959, reported that in his opinion CHILDSON was mentally unbalanced and not responsible for his actions. CHILDSON reportedly said in March, 1959, there would be a revolution in a year and the "Jews" and Negroes would be annihilated. CHILDSON said to be in bad shape financially and may be getting financial assistance from Welfare Dept., St. Petersburg, Fla.

157-112-196 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 5/21/59
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

On 5/12/59, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 3/18/59, to SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL & JAMES E. WALLACE.

Source advised that on 3/13/59, JOE BRYANT (BRYAN?) of North Carolina called at informant's home. [redacted] CHILDSON dwelt on how he was being hounded by the authorities - could not get work, etc.

157-112-210 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 6/29/59
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, Supreme Commander, Confederate Underground (CU) allegedly stated on 5/20/59, the authorities should know he did not have

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anything to do with the bombings as he would have waited until the synagogues were full of "Jews" before he bombed them. CHILDSON said HITLER had the right idea - the "Jews" would make good fertilizer. He said the CU will have no meetings; when an emergency comes up, CHILDSON will assume command. CHILDSON said if peaceful changes not made in the country by 1961, "we will make the changes." He said there would be no revolution until at least 1961. He believes the Jews should be annihilated and they will be during the revolution. CHILDSON interviewed 6/2/59 and said he was through with the CU. Claimed CU never got started and that he has been attempting to cease operation of CU since 12/1/58. Admits he may have issued commissions in CU subsequent to 12/1/58. Claims CU formed as an anti-Communist organization and engaged in no violence. Denied he had preached revolution and annihilation of Jews and Negroes. Claims he now wants to be a private detective and if he joins or associates with a Klan-type organization in the future, he will advise the FBI. He declined to furnish names of CU and CKKKK members.

157-112-220 - Chicago report SA WAYNE H. DRAKE dated 9/29/59
RE: CONFEDERATE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

Report reflects that H. H. CHILDSON, St. Petersburg, Fla., ordered by mail during May and June, 1959, 2 police badges and badge cases through the W. S. Darley and Co., Chicago, which handles municipal supplies. The badges, gold plated and inscribed "Detective Bureau" were shipped June 10, 1959.

157-123-48 - Cincinnati letter to Tampa dated 1/31/61. RE: PETER L. XAVIER, aka; RM

The Dayton,Ohio PD advised that XAVIER's residence at 335 Linwood St., Dayton, was searched by that Dept. on 9/19/60, following issuance of a search warrant. Numerous index cards, correspondence files, hate literature, etc., were confiscated by the PD. The name of HAL CHILDSON, 1136 Oak St., NE, St. Petersburg, Fla., appeared under the heading "Special Southern Group Leadership."

157-1-619 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 5/13/57
RE: FLORIDA KU KLUX KLAN, aka; IS-X

On 3/5/57 and 4/10/57, [redacted] advised that to his knowledge there was no Klavern of the Florida KKK in St. Petersburg or Pinellas County, Fla.

This serial further states that it was known that a group identified as Knights of the KKK, Pinellas Park, Fla., was in existance in December,

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1956, but is now defunct. This group was headed by HARLEY H. CHILDSON, who, prior to the formation of the group in July, 1956, was Exalted Cyclops of Sunshine Klavern No. 1 of the Association of Georgia Klans which is defunct.

157-2-677 - Memo SA E. WILSON PURDY to SAC Miami dated 10/6/55
RE: SOUTHERN KNIGHT OF KKK; IS-X

On 9/15/55, [redacted] advised that he deals with both colored and white laborers in St. Pete as a [redacted] and that while he believes there is no actual KKK in St. Pete at that time, he has received info that an effort was being made at that time to organize a group in St. Pete. [redacted] explained that he had been asked to join a group as a charter member and to assist in recruiting members for the KKK. He said that the local organizer was one H. H. CHILDSON, contractor, who was a member of [redacted] and operates a contracting business known as the Triangle Construction Co., located at his home address, 3234 - 36th Ave., N. in St. Pete. [redacted] stated that he did not agree with the principles of the Klan but gave CHILDSON $10 for his membership fee and would attend meetings for the purpose of determining what was going on and furnish info to the FBI.

157-2-678 - Memo SA E. WILSON PURDY to SAC Miami dated 12/8/55
RE: U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF THE KKK; IS-X

On 11/4/55, MR. HARLEY H. CHILDSON, a contractor, appeared at the St. Pete RA to register a complaint against the Director of Building, City of St. Pete., HENRY M. NIELSON. CHILDSON said he had received a letter from NIELSON calling to CHILDSON's attention that he had two liens in the amount of $102 and $299.17 against some property which CHILDSON had built, and that unless CHILDSON took care of the liens, the city would refuse to issue him permits to build, or a new license to proceed as a contractor. CHILDSON said he thought some organization should take care of the people at City Hall by showing strength enough to force them to operate in a fair manner and he felt he was being discriminated against in the issuance of license.

Agent advised that CHILDSON appeared very ill at ease, not particularly interested in the building permit situation and asked about subversive organizations.

On 11/30/55, PSI [redacted] advised he was not able to attend the meeting called by CHILDSON for 11/5/55 but had attended the meeting on 11/11/55. [redacted] said no business was conducted at this meeting and CHILDSON stated that no one had turned out for the 2 meetings he had

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157-2-682 - Miami report SA E. WILSON PURDY dated 1/12/56
RE: ASSOCIATED KLANS OF AMERICA, aka; IS-X

With reference to CHILDSON, this report does not contain any pertinent info not previously set forth.

157-2-693 - Miami report SA E. WILSON PURDY dated 4/11/56
RE: ASSOCIATED KLANS OF AMERICA, aka; IS-X

On 1/16/56, [redacted] (PROTECT) advised that a meeting had been held at [redacted] Source said that CHILDSON had some guns that he showed the group. Informant said there was very little interest expressed at this meeting. Informant described CHILDSON as "the village idiot" who was trying to be a "big shot" but did not know how.

157-3-1090 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 12/26/56
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 12/2/56, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 12/1/56 on activities of BILL HENDRIX, former Grand Dragon of the Southern Knights of the KKK and Northern Knights of the KKK. Source advised that HENDRIX was still working with CHILDSON who had attempted to start a Klan without HENDRIX's help but later worked together with him. HENDRIX stated he was not satisfied with CHILDSON, saying that CHILDSON "had no sense."

157-3-1202 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 6/21/57
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-X

On 5/23/57, [redacted] made available to SA WALLACE a written report dated 5/21/57 re statements made by BILL HENDRIX upon his return from Knoxville, Tenn. HENDRIX stated that he drew up the $100,000 law suit of H. H. CHILDSON against the City of St. Pete and ROSS WINDOM.

157-3-1321 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 2/8/58 to SAC Miami
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-X

On 1/17/58, [redacted] made available a written report dated 1/3/58, re the activities of MRS. ROSE KASPER, mother of JOHN KASPER, who was visiting in St. Pete. On 12/30/57, it was known that she spent some time at the HENDRIX home and that H. H. CHILDSON was present during some of that time.

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157-3-1322 p.2 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 2/7/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-X

On 1/17/58, [redacted] made available a written report dated 11/21/57 re a meeting of the Pinellas County #4 Knight of the KKK meeting held on 11/15/57 at the Klavern located at 105 County Rd., Oldsmar, Fla. Officers were elected for the next year. H. HUGH CHILDSON, St. Pete - exact address unknown, listed as "Head of degree tean".

157-3-1332 p.3 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 2/19/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-X

On 1/17/58, [redacted] made available a written report dated 12/4/57 re meeting of the Pinellas County #4 Klavern, held at the Klavern in Oldsmar, Fla. on 11/29/57. Plans were discussed for attending the West Palm Beach meeting of groups interested in the same objectives, and it appeared that H. H. CHILDSON would be among those attending.

157-3-1390 p.2 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 5/12/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K; Pinellas County
Klavern #4, KKKK, St. Petersburg, Fla.

On 4/11/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 3/24/58 re meeting of the Southern Knights of the KKK, Klavern #4, Oldsmar, Fla. on 3/23/58. H. H. CHILDSON, building trade - possibly self-employed as Triangle Homes, St. Pete, attending. Source advised that CHILDSON had a handful of denotation caps in his pocket which he took out and played with like marbles during the meeting. It also appeared that he was carrying a pistol either in his hip pocket, or in a holster there. The weapon was not seen, just mentioned in conversation.

157-3-1404 - Miami airtel to director dated 5/28/58; RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

This serial is a response to Bureau's request to determine whereabouts of HARLEY H. CHILDSON on 3/16/58 and 4/28/58, the dates on which dynamitings occurred in Miami and Jacksonville, respectively.

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157-3-1434 - Knoxville letter to Director dated 7/9/58 RE: [redacted];SI

On 6/26/58, [redacted] advised that ROBERT BAIRD had mentioned to him that BAIRD was contemplating a trip to Florida and planning to meet H. H. CHILDSON while in Fla. Informant advised that he was willing to make the trip inasmuch as he was then unemployed and would make a sincere effort to obtain employment through CHILDSON or near him in order to follow and report on CHILDSON's activities.

157-3-1501 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 9/10/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 8/28/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 8/23/58 re info concerning H. H. (HAL or HUGO) CHILDSON, of St. Petersburg, Fla. It was understood by source [redacted] that CHILDSON did have an active group of Klansmen in St. Pete at that time.

Source further stated that the members were paying an initiation fee of $25.00 and that CHILDSON was selling them robes. Source further stated that [redacted] had no connection with the group, however [redacted] CHILDSON appeared to be on good terms, although [redacted] did not agree with CHILDSON's methods.

157-3-1502 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE TO SAC Miami dated 9/10/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 8/28/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 8/23/58 regarding source's conversation [redacted] on 8/23/58. It was learned that HAL CHILDSON was to accompany [redacted] to Kentucky and Indiana to the Convention of the States Rights Party over the Labor Day weekend. (9/58)

157-3-1504 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 9/11/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-K

On 9/9/58, [redacted] telephoncially advised that JOHN KASPER was registered at the West Coast Hotel, Clearwater, Fla., and had requested informant to contact him.

On 9/11/58, [redacted] telephonically advised he contacted KASPER in Clearwater on 9/10/58 and that HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON was also present.

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157-3-1523 - Memo SA DOUGLASS E. WENDEL to SAC Miami dated 9/22/58
RE: SOUTHERN KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 9/8/58, [redacted] orally advised SA WENDEL that HAL H. CHILDSON who was at Lake City, Fla. rally of Southern Knights of the KKK, 9/6/58, appeared to be the head of the Confederate Knights of the KKK and that CHILDSON resides at 333 - 43rd Ave., No., St. Petersburg, Fla. [redacted] added that CHILDSON sent him by mail an application to join the Klan and that the initiation fee is $25.00. CHILDSON also asked [redacted]

157-3-1527 - Memo SA DOUGLASS E. WENDEL to SAC Miami dated 9/22/58
RE: SOUTHERN KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 9/9/58, PSI [redacted] furnished a written report dated 9/8/58 re a speaking on 9/6/58, at Lake City, Fla. sponsored by the Klan. HAL CHILDSON attending.

157-3-1530 - Memo SA DOUGLASS E. WENDEL to SAC Miami dated 9/23/58
RE: SOUTHERN KNIGHTS OF KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 9/17/58, PSI [redacted] furnished a written report dated 9/16/58, re a Klan speaking at Lamourex Garage, 9/13/58, in South Bay, Fla. HAL CHILDSON among those attending. CHILDSON gave a member from West Palm Beach permission to organize a Klavern of the Confedeate Knights of the KKK in Palm Beach County.

157-3-1540 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 9/26/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 9/8/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 9/8/58 re a public speaking of the Knights of the White Camelia at Lake City, Fla. on 9/6/58. Speaker's platform was from the bed of a pick-up truck, owned by H. H. (HAL) CHILDSON, St. Pete. CHILDSON wore a yellow Klan robe and acted as M.C. CHILDSON stated in private conversation that he was taking women in his organization. CHILDSON was overheard talking with some of the South Bay group, advising them to swipe a coffin in someone's truck and put it on the step of someone's house.

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157-3-1552 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 10/2/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 9/26/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 9/25/58 re activities of the Knights of the White Camelia in Pinellas County from 9/12 thru 9/25/58. Report mentions that BILL HENDRIX stated that CHILDSON would not be able to attend the speaking in Jacksonville on 9/27.

157-3-1575 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 10/27/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 10/17/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 10/17/58, re meeting of Knights of the White Camellia held at the KKK Klavern, 105 N. Summerdale Rd., Oldsmar, Fla. on 10/16/58. H, H, CHILDSON advised that the FBI had been to his house to interview him and most of the evening spent discussing this. CHILDSON also offered several people who were present, commissions in the Confederate Army Underground.

157-3-1586 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 11/4/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 10/27/58, [redacted], who has furnished reliable info in past, furnished written report dated 10/25/58 re meeting of Knights of the White Camelia, Oldsmar, Fla., on 10/23/58. Appears a meeting was to have been held but upon arriving source discovered Klavern building not open and source determined that a public speaking was being held in St. Pete. Source also determined that H. H. CHILDSON was attending this speaking.

157-3-1593 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC dated 11/6/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

Same info as contained in 157-112-91, set forth on page 3 of this memo.

157-3-1595 - Charlotte letter to Savannah dated 11/10/68
RE: JAMES W. COLE; IS-KLAN

On 10/31/58, [redacted] furnished SA JAMES M. UNDERHILL material he had received in a plain envelope postmarked Oldsmar, Fla., 10/28/58. Contained in this material was a handwritten letter on printed letterhead of Knights of the White Camellia of the National Christian Church, P.O. Box 47, Oldsmar, Fla., signed by "BILL HENDRIX. In this letter HENDRIX

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stated he had received a letter from Rev. COLE wanting to move to Fla. Letter mentions the name CHILDSON. Nothing pertinent contained in letter.

157-3-1604 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 11/19/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 11/7/58, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 11/5/58 re the public speaking and cross burning held in South Jacksonville, Fla., at Phillips Highway and Bowden Rd. on 11/1/58. H. H. (HAL) CHILDSON, house leveler, self-employed, 333 - 43rd Ave., No. St. Petersburg, Fla., among those attending and wearing a robe. CHILDSON spoke for about 10 minutes.

157-3-1610 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 11/20/58
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

On 11/7/58, [redacted] furnished written report dated 11/3/58 re meeting of the Knights of the White Camelia, 10/30/58 at home of BILL HENDRIX, Oldsmar, Fla., which is on same property as the Klavern. H. H. (HAL) CHILDSON, attending. CHILDSON told about having to down to the FBI Office the day after they had talked to him at his home. He said he knew he didn't have to talke to them, but he knew they had something on him and he might as well cooperate.

157-3-1620 - Memo SA RWW (not further identified) to SAC Miami
dated 12/9/58 RE: SK KKK, aka; RM

On 11/27/58, [redacted] advised that he believed that RAY MC CABE was the most active person in Palm Beach County as far as right wing organizations were concerned. He further stated that MC CABE was in contact with HAL CHILDSON and other leaders of various organizations.

157-3-1639 p.8 - Los Angeles letter to Miami dated 1/14/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; IS-KLAN

WALTER E. ANDERSON, General Manager, Golden State Arms Corp., Pasadena, Calif., on 1/13/59, advised SA WAYNE H. SHAW that his firm does not maintain bills of sale and/or invoices broken down as to States. He stated that the firm uses the Mitchell Letter Mart, 1206 Maple St., Los Angeles, Calif. as a mailing service. This letter service maintains a file containing names and addresses of persons who have purchased guns and/or ammunition from Golden State Arms Corp. and Martin B. Retting, Inc. Arrangements were made through ANDERSON for agent to have access to these files. Invoice number 01861 indicates that H. H. CHILDSON,

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333-43rd Ave., North, purchased "carton 1 rifle" in amount of $15.00.

157-3-1648 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 2/2/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

On 1/20/59, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 1/8/59 re activities of the Knights of the White Camelia in Pinellas County, Fla. during December, 1958. Source advised that during the last week in December, HAL H. CHILDSON, 1136 Oak St., NE, contacted a Klan member offering to sell a gun, some books and a power mower. The gun was obtained and turned over to the proper authorities. It was a .45 colt, 1911 series, stamped "U. S. Government Property."

CHILDSON further advised that his having to move had used all his cash, he had not been able to rent his apartment. He said his rent was due, and the electricity, water, telephone, etc. were past due and about to be turned off.

157-3-1649 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 2/2/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

On 1/20/59, [redacted] furnished report dated 1/8/59, re meeting of the Knights of the White Camelia, Oldsmar, Fla. on 1/8/59. It was not a formal meeting. During the discussion it was learned that DEWEY TAFT, klan member, had moved his place of business, The Taft Press, and that BILL HENDRIX and H. H. CHILDSON had helped him with the move.

157-3-1650 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 2/2/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

On 1/20/59, [redacted] furnished a written report dated 1/20/59 re Klan meeting on 1/15/59 at Oldsmar, Fla. HAL CHILDSON's name was mentioned, BILL HENDRIX saying that CHILDSON was in a financial fix.

157-3-1726 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 3/30/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

On 3/20/59, [redacted] furnished written report dated 3/6/59 re meeting of the Klan on 1/25/59, Oldsmar, Fla. HAL CHILDSON, building, self-employed, 1136 Locust St., NE, St. Petersburg, Fla., stated that he was having a very rough time, having had no work since before Christmas. He said he may return to Harley County, Ky., where he "can get all the dynamite he wants". CHILDSON had a book on explsoives and in discussing it he stated that to anyone who understood what the book was all about, it showed how simple it was to make a good bomb.

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157-3-1727 - Miami report SA JAMES E. WALLACE dated 3/30/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka; RM

This report does not set forth any info pertinent to CHILDSON that has not already been set out in this memo.

157-3-1792 - Memo SA JAMES E. WALLACE to SAC Miami dated 6/25/59
RE: KNIGHTS OF THE KKKK, aka; RM

On 6/11/59, [redacted] made available to SA WALLACE by mail a report dated Sunday (6/7/59). This report appears to be in the form of a letter from source however no indication as to where source was writting letter. Appears that a new Klavern was being opened somewhere. In this report source states that ART BAKER mentioned working with CHILDSON during that past week at GUS BROWN's house in Lutz, Fla.

157-3-1874 - FD 306 dated 10/27/59 by SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL and JAMES E. WALLACE.(SOURCE: [redacted]

[redacted] Report on meeting of the Southern Knights of the KKK held on [redacted] Five people present. It was mentioned that HAL CHILDSON was still working for HENDRIX and had seemed to have gotten away from his "$100 a day ideas" and was resigned to working for a living.

157-3-1880 - FD 306 dated 10/27/59 by SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL and JAMES E. WALLACE. SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re meeting of Southern Knights of the KKK held on 10/2/59 at Clearwater, Fla. BILL HENDRIX stated that HAL CHILDSON of St. Pete is still working for him on his construction jobs and that CHILDSON was planning to start a Detective Agency in Kentucky. HENDRIX said that CHILDSON had really been up agsinst it and was drawing his pay by the day in order to keep his family in food.

157-3-2190 - FD 306 dated 10/28/60 by SAS DAVID A. BRUMBLE and JAMES E. WALLACE. SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re public speaking and cross burning, Chiefland, Fla., 10/1/60. HAL CHILDSON, St. Pete, attending. CHILDSON stated that he was fed up with Florida, is broke, sick of crooks and Jews that control state, and was going back to Kentucky.

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FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

TP 157-24

157-3-2197:- FD 306 dated 11/28/60 by SAS O. R. KENNEDY and JAMES E. WALLACE. SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re meeting of Southern Knights of the KKK, at the Klavern, 2810 No. Summerdale Dr., Clearwater, Fla., 11/3/60. It was mentioned that HAL CHILDSON was reported to have moved from his last reported address on 9th St. No., owing a $43 water bill and $70 phone bill. It was reported that he had bought a house on the corner of 14th St. and either 72 or 78 Ave. North, (Meadow Lawn). He claims to have given his name as "SMITH" to the city in order to get utilities turned on at this address.

BILL HENDRIX said that CHILDSON was doing some work at the Norman Hotel, St. Pete and that HENDRIX was going to help him.

157-3-2208 - FD 306 dated 12/3/60 by SAS O. R. KENNEDY & JAMES E. WALLACE. SOURCE: [redacted]

Source learned from BILL HENDRIX, that on the night of 12/3/60, that HENDRIX and PETER XAVIER had been stopped in the city of St. Pete while pulling the trailer with the cage. It was a "shock" to HENDRIX and XAVIER for the Chief of Police to have known XAVIER on sight. They believed that HARLEY CHILDSON tipped off the police.

157-3-2256 - FD 306 dated 3/30/61 by SA JAMES E. WALLACE SOURCE: [redacted]

Report on meeting of the Southern Knights of the KKK at the Klavern, Clearwater, Fla., 3/23/61. Source advised that the name of HAL CHILDSON was introduced into the conversation more than once, but no indication given that he had moved from his last known address in the Meadowlawn district of St. Petersburg.

157-3-2257 - FD 306 dated 3/30/61 by SA JAMES E. WALLACE SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re meeting of Klan, Clearwater, Fla., 3/16/61. It is to be noted that the name of HAL CHILDSON is indicated for indexing on the 306 but there is no mention of CHILDSON in the report other than to say that HAL CHILDSON's wife's brother was living in the Klavern.

157-3-2258 - FD 306 dated 4/5/61 by SAS O. R. KENNEDY & JAMES E. WALLACE. SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re meeting of Klan, Clearwater, Fla., 3/30/61. HAL CHILDSON's name was mentioned, however nothing of a pertinent nature indicated.

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

TP 157-24

157-3-2331 - FD 306 dated 6/20/61 by SAS O. R. KENNEDY & JAMES E. WALLACE.
SOURCE: [redacted]

Report re meeting of the Kouthern Knights of the KKK, 6/15/61, at home of BILL HENDRIX, Clearwater, Fla. MRS. HENDRIX commented that they had not seen or heard from HAL CHILDSON in some time.

157-3-2394 - FD 306 dated 8/1/61 by SA JAMES E. WALLACE
SOURCE: [redacted]

During conversation with BILL HENDRIX on 8/1/61, HENDRIX told source that HAL CHILDSON was in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Cards consolidated.

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND (157-268) DATE: 4/30/65

FROM : SAC, TAMPA (157-24) (RUC)

SUBJECT: HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM (KLAN)

Re Tampa letter to Portland 2/24/65 (IO), Portland letter to Tampa 3/13/65 (IO), and Tampa letter to Director 4/7/65.

Enclosed for Portland are the following:

(1) One copy Miami airtel to the Director, 10/31/58

(2) One copy Springfield airtel to Knoxville, 11/7/58

(3) One copy Miami report of SA JAMES E. WALLACE, 1/14/59

(4) Memo to SAC, Miami, 3/30/59

(5) One copy of a memo to SAC, Tampa 3/11/64.

In accordance with Bureau approval, on 4/21/65, to change the Office of Origin in this matter from Tampa to Portland, copies of the above serials from Tampa's file on subject are being forwarded to Portland. From a review of the Tampa file it appears that these serials are all that will be of interest to Portland.

2 - Portland (Encls. 5)
1 - Tampa
WKG:cj
(3)

157-268-11

SEARCHED ... INDEXED ...
SERIALIZED ... FILED ...
APR 30 1965
FBI - TAMPA

DIRECTOR, FBI 5/10/65

SAC, PORTLAND (157-268) (C)

HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON
RM (KLAN)
(OO: Portland)

Re letter from Tampa to Bureau dated 4/7/65, in which request for change of origin from Tampa to Portland, was requested, which request was approved by Bureau, 4/21/65. It is noted pertinent serials were forwarded Portland from Tampa by letter dated 4/30/65.

For Bureau's information, examination of records of Credit Bureau, Salem, 3/12/65, disclosed that a credit file existed on subject dating back to August, 1963. His current address was disclosed as 1135 Highland Avenue, N.E., Salem, and his occupation was indicated as Childson Pest Control Company, which business is operated from his residence. Two suits were indicated against him, one by the John Mathias Company, for $70.00, and the other by the Salem Credit Bureau for $215.38, both at Salem, either of which was shown as settled or paid.

Records of the Driver's License Division, Office of the Secretary of State, Salem, disclosed on 3/12/65, an Oregon driver's license was issued subject 3/17/64 at which time his occupation was given as general contractor, and his address was the same as indicated above.

Salem police records as of 3/12/65, disclosed subject was cited on 6/15/64 for a traffic violation and bail of $10.00 was forfeited. Marion County Sheriff's Office, Salem, as of 3/12/65, contained no record of subject.

A review of the background regarding subject as provided by the Tampa Office, discloses that subject, formerly active in the Ku Klux Klan in Florida, has not been active in this organization since about 1960.

2-Bureau (RM)
1-Portland

JAB:jlm
(3)

Searched
Serialized
Indexed
Filed

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While subject was formerly listed by the Tampa Office as a potential bombing suspect, he was deleted from such list by Tampa in 1960.

No information has been received by the Portland Office indicating any Klan or other pertinent activity by the subject in this division. Accordingly, no further action is contemplated and this matter is regarded as closed.

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FBI

Date: 2/24/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-370)

FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (105-91) (RUC)

RE: UKA, INC., KKKK
RM - KLAN

Re Charlotte airtel to Bureau, 2/10/67, and Bureau airtel to Atlanta, Portland, Seattle, et al, 2/17/67.

A copy of this airtel is being furnished Seattle in view of that office's interest in the reliability of information concerning the existence of Klan Units in Oregon and Washington.

Re: REPORTED (2/67) EXISTENCE OF KLAVERN IN OREGON, LOCATION UNKNOWN

No investigation by the Portland Office within the past five years relative to racial matters, hate-type organizations and individual with known racial prejudices has disclosed any organized Klan Units or reason to suspect the existence of a Klan Unit in Oregon.

On 2/21/67, Mrs. NELLIE FITCH, Oregon Corporation Commissioner's Office, Salem, Oregon, advised that there is no record of any KKKK or similar type klan organization being incorporated in Oregon since at least 1961.

4 - Bureau (RM)
(3 - 157-370)
(1 - 157-4553)
2 - Charlotte (157-230)(RM)
2 - New Orleans (1 - 157- UKA, Inc., KKKK)(RM)
(1 - 157-5679)
1 - Seattle (Info) (RM)
3 - Portland
(1 - 105-91) (1 - 157-285) (1 - 157-268)
LEF/rcf
(12)

12

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-268-13

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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On 2/21/67, CLAIR ALDERSON, Records Office, Oregon State Police Headquarters, Salem, Oregon, said that he knew of no klan activities whatever in the state of Oregon, and that records of his office failed to reflect any such activity.

On 2/23/67, HARLEY HANSON CHILDSON, 1135 Highland Avenue, Salem, who was reported to have been a KKKK member in Florida in 1960 or prior, advised that since he moved to Salem in 1964, from Florida, he has had no connection whatever with any klan organization and that he has purposely avoided making any such contact. CHILDSON advised, however, that he has had no reason to believe that any Klan Unit exists in Oregon.

On 2/23/67, GLEN BOWMAN, Captain, Detective Unit, Salem Police Department, and MARVIN GOODLETT, Deputy, Marion County Sheriff's Office, covering Salem, each advised that they knew of no klan activity in Oregon, and had no information which would indicate that HARLEY CHILDSON is interested in, or connected with any klan.

Portland believes that the information in Charlotte airtel concerning a klavern in Oregon probably was based on the former klan membership of RONALD GEORGE ANTOINE (Bufile 157-4553, New Orleans 157-5679) in Louisiana. This individual, a native of Oregon, lived in Houma, Louisiana in 1964-65 and was a klan member there. He returned to Mt. Angel, Oregon, in July, 1965, and in January, 1966, furnished a signed statement to the FBI relative to his former klan membership (report of SA HAROLD G. BRACK, Portland, 3/31/66 concerning ANTOINE). ANTOINE in January, 1966, admitted acquaintance with JACK HELMES, former Exalted Cyclops of a Klan Unit in New Orleans. The latter individual is probably the HELM referred to in referenced Charlotte airtel as a Grand Dragon of the KKKK in Louisiana.

On 2/21/67, RONALD GEORGE ANTOINE, 1015 Blaine Street, Woodburn, Oregon, stated that he had earlier in February, 1967, moved from Mt. Angel, Oregon, to Woodburn, Oregon, where he is now employed on the Woodburn, Oregon Police Department. He has had no contact from individuals known to him to be members of the Ku Klux Klan since he left Louisiana and came to Oregon except that a short time after he was interviewed by FBI Agents in Oregon in January, 1966, he received in the mail a printed leaflet mailed to him by HENRY HABERT of New Orleans, Louisiana, which leaflet announced some meeting of klan activity in New Orleans.

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PD 105-91

In addition, ANTOINE had received a Christmas card at Christmas, 1966, from HAYES MARCELL from Houma, Louisiana, which ANTOINE referred to as a "Klan Christmas card" which had the klan seal on the back. This was one of the persons who had been in the klan in Louisiana and about whom ANTOINE had previously reported. These are the only contacts he has had from persons known by him to have been in the klan in Louisiana.

ANTOINE was not furnished by the Louisiana Klan, the names of any persons supposed to be in the klan in Oregon, at the time he returned to Oregon from Louisiana. On 2/21/67 he volunteered to continue corresponding with the individuals in Louisiana with the hope that he would thereby be able to elicit from them names of any other persons in Oregon of whom they might have knowledge of being in the klan in Oregon.

Portland believes that JACK HELM may have exaggerated the former membership of ANTOINE into a "klavern" in Oregon to show his abilities as an organizer.

In view of the above, Portland believes that no klan organization currently exists in Oregon but it will remain alert and promptly advise the Bureau of any indication of klan activity.

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